

To: Planning Commission
Re: East Beltway/Middle Corridor
From: Kevin W. and Susan Palmer, 12707 E. Van Dorn, Walton, NE 68461
Date: 7/18/01

When did the 'Beltway Study' go from, "Do we need it?" to, "Choose from one of these three options." Even though recent studies have shown that a beltway would only give little to modest relief for Lincoln and is questionable as a truck route. Then considering the growth rate of Lincoln, all of the eastern routes are too close to even facilitate an actual beltway.

Not only the question of necessity is at hand, but also let us not forget about historical and environmental concerns. The area will be over run, or *overpaved*, with the urban sprawl that will inevitably follow beltway development. Which makes the East Beltway in direct conflict for any ideas of preserving the Stevens Creek Water Shed for carefully planned residential development with room for parks, trails, ponds and other precious recreational beauty for Lincoln's future.

We have all been involved with a very important decision for all of the parties concerned. The elected representatives of our city and county should be commended for their considerations in this beltway study and for all of their personal efforts to make a sound decision.

With all that in mind, I ask you all, the City, County and State officials to consider the legacy they will leave their grandchildren. Are we to say to them that we had to pave over the last creeks, valleys and historic farms just to make one more paved road? Or can we have the foresight to plan for a more functional location for a thoroughway to use as Lincoln grows and a beltway does become necessary, or are we merely a rubber stamp or the city council and beltway developers?

Exhibit 38
July 18, 2001